

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY - PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare: that my citizenship and address are as stated below; that I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one is named below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the invention entitled Aqueous – Based Oil Well Drilling Fluids Containing High Amylose Starch Polymers, the specification of which

(check one)   X   is attached hereto  
                            was filed on                      as  
                                     Application Serial No.                       
                                     and was amended on                       
   (if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56(a). I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application

Priority Claimed

<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year)	Yes	No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, ' 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, ' 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u>Not Applicable</u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)
		(patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint as principal attorney:

Michael J. Cronin, Reg. No. 35,848, to prosecute and transact all business in the United States Patent office connected with this application. Please direct all communications to the following address:

Michael J. Cronin, Esq.  
 Elementis Specialties, Inc.  
 Wyckoffs Mill Road  
 Hightstown, New Jersey 08520

I hereby declare that the statements made herein are of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

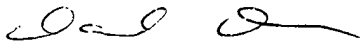
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March 12, 2002  
Date

  
Signature